

**Arborist's Report
Tree Inventory and Assessment**

**469 Piercy Road
San Jose, CA 95138**

Prepared for:

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Summary

The inventory contains all the trees growing on the property and any adjacent with crowns or root area on the site that could be affected by a proposed project. None of the trees assessed are native to the area and all have been introduced. There are eleven trees comprised of six different species with five considered “Ordinance Size”. Most of the trees are in fair condition and all but one have poor suitability for conservation. None of the trees existing are worth preserving and resources should concentrate on replacement with better suited specimens. All the trees will be highly impacted by the proposed plans and caused to be removed with the following five considered to be “Ordinance Size”: #920, #924, #926, #927, and #928. The landscape plan indicates there will be five additional twenty-four inch box specimens to account for the loss of the “Ordinance Size” trees.

Introduction

Background

I was asked to assess the site, trees, and proposed footprint plan, and to provide a report with my findings and recommendations to help satisfy planning requirements.

Assignment

- Provide an arborist’s report that includes an assessment of the trees within the project area and on the adjacent sites. The assessment is to include the species, size (trunk diameter), condition (health and structure), and suitability for preservation ratings.
- Provide tree protection specifications, guidelines, and impact ratings for trees that may be affected by the project.

Limits of the assignment

- The information in this report is limited to the condition of the trees during my inspection on February 22, 2018. No tree risk assessments were performed.
- The plans reviewed for this assignment were as follows: Landscape Plan Set provided by Environmental Foresight, Inc. dated March 2, 2018. Grading and Drainage Plan C-2.0 provided by Lea & Braze dated September 9, 2017.



Purpose and use of the report

The report is intended to identify all the trees within the plan area that could be affected by a project. The report is to be used by the property owners, owner's agents, and the City of San Jose as a reference for existing tree and site conditions to help satisfy planning requirements.

Observations

Tree Inventory

The inventory contains all the trees growing on the property and any adjacent with crowns or root area on the site that could be affected by a proposed project. None of the trees assessed are native and all have been introduced. There are eleven trees comprised of six different species with five considered "Ordinance Size" (Table 1).

Table 1: Tree Inventory

Tree Species	#	Trunk Diameter (in.)	Trunk Circumference (in.)	~ Height (ft.)	~ Canopy Diameter (ft.)	Ordinance Size
Chinese pistache (<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>)	918	10.3	32.342	20	20	No
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood')	919	11	34.54	25	25	No
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood')	920	22	69.08	25	25	Yes
plum (<i>Punus cerasifera</i>)	921	10	31.4	15	15	No
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	922	10	31.4	15	15	No
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	923	11	34.54	15	15	No
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	924	15.5	48.67	15	15	Yes
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	925	8	25.12	15	15	No
silver maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>)	926	20	62.8	15	15	Yes
silver dollar gum (<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemos</i>)	927	7, 5, 4, 2, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2	84.78	30	20	Yes
mulberry (<i>Morus alba</i>)	928	29	91.06	40	50	Yes



Below is the existing topographic survey indicating the tree locations and their corresponding numbers (Image 1).

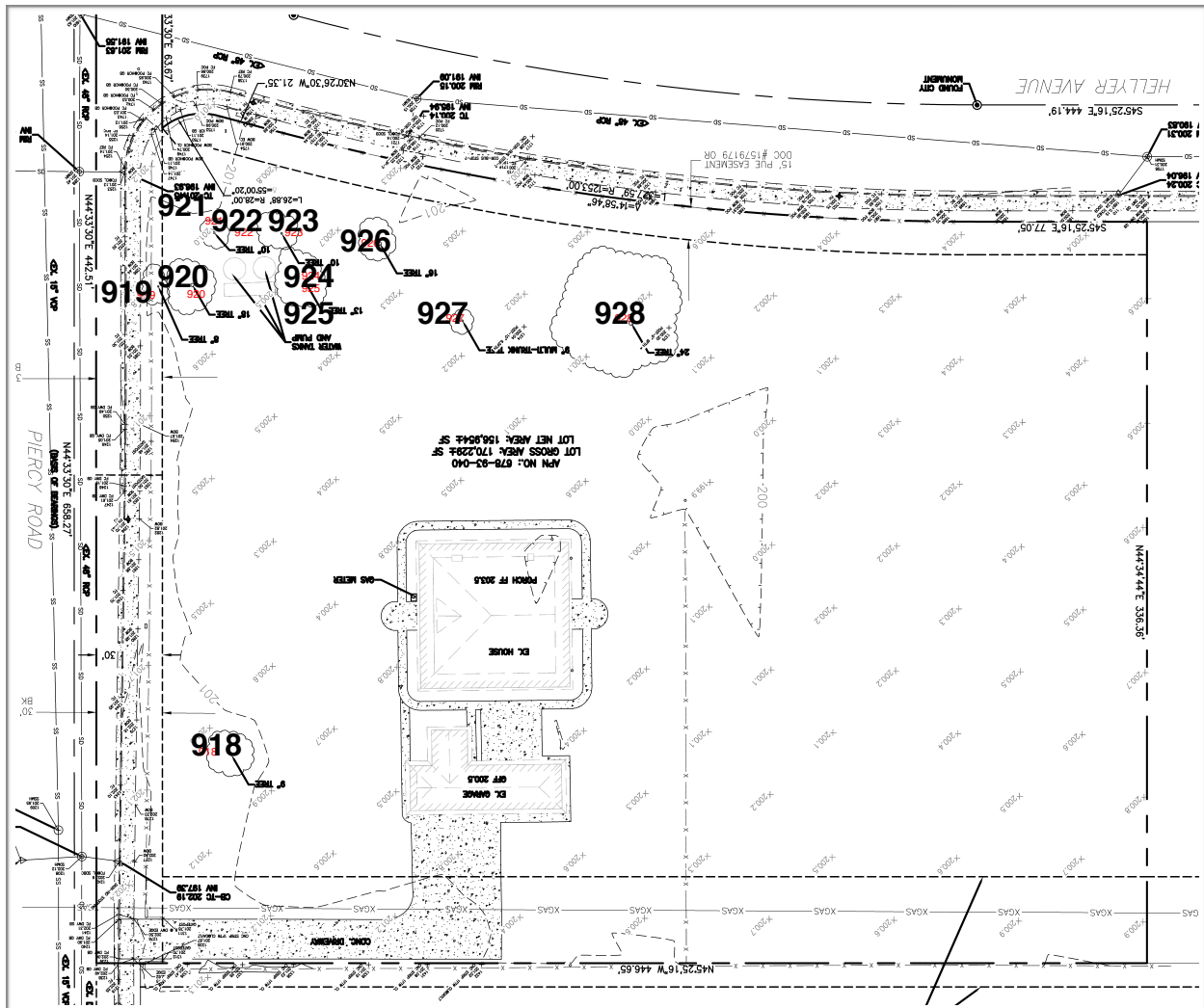


Image 1: Tree Inventory Map



Discussion

Condition Rating

A tree's condition is a determination of its overall health and structure based on five aspects: roots, trunk, scaffold branches, twigs, and foliage. The assessment considered both the health and structure for a combined condition rating.

- Exceptional = Good health and structure with significant size, location or quality.
- Good = No apparent problems, good structure and health, good longevity for the site.
- Fair = Minor problems, at least one structural defect or health concern, problems can be mitigated through cultural practices such as pruning or a plant health care program.
- Poor = Major problems with multiple structural defects or declining health, not a good candidate for retention.
- Dead/Unstable = Extreme problems, irreversible decline, failing structure, or dead.

Most of the trees are in fair condition with the silver maple and the silver dollar gum being in poor shape (Table 2).

Table 2: Condition Assessment

Tree Species	Number	Trunk Diameter	Health	Structure	Condition
Chinese pistache (<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>)	918	10.3	Good	Fair	Fair
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood')	919	11	Fair	Fair	Fair
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood')	920	22	Fair	Fair	Fair
plum (<i>Punus cerasifera</i>)	921	10	Good	Poor	Fair
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	922	10	Good	Poor	Fair
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	923	11	Good	Poor	Fair
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	924	15.5	Good	Poor	Fair
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	925	8	Good	Poor	Fair
silver maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>)	926	20	Poor	Poor	Poor
silver dollar gum (<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemos</i>)	927	7, 5, 4, 2, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2	Fair	Poor	Poor
mulberry (<i>Morus alba</i>)	928	29	Fair	Poor	Fair



Suitability for Conservation

A tree's suitability for conservation is determined based on its health, structure, age, species and disturbance tolerances, proximity to cutting and filling, proximity to construction or demolition, and potential longevity using a scale of good, fair, or poor (Fite, K, and Smiley, E. T., 2016). The following list defines the rating scale:

- Good = Trees with good health, structural stability and longevity after construction.
- Fair = Trees with fair health and/or structural defects that may be mitigated through treatment. These trees require more intense management and monitoring, before, during, and after construction, and may have shorter life expectancy after development.
- Poor = Trees are expected to decline during or after construction regardless of management. The species or individual may possess characteristics that are incompatible or undesirable in landscape settings or unsuited for the intended use of the site.

Suitability differs from condition because sometimes there are species or individuals that may be worth saving or not preserving based on other characteristics. For this site only non-ordinance size Chinese pistache is worth preserving (Table 3).

Table 3: Suitability for Conservation Assessment

Tree Species	#	Trunk Diameter (in.)	Suitability Rating	Reason
Chinese pistache (<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>)	918	10.3	Fair	Drought adapted small tree
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood')	919	11	Poor	Volunteer
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood')	920	22	Poor	Volunteer
plum (<i>Punus cerasifera</i>)	921	10	Poor	Volunteer/Invasive
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	922	10	Poor	Volunteer/Invasive
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	923	11	Poor	Volunteer/Invasive
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	924	15.5	Poor	Volunteer/Invasive
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	925	8	Poor	Volunteer/Invasive
silver maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>)	926	20	Poor	Prone to failures/Poor Compartmentalizer
silver dollar gum (<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemos</i>)	927	7, 5, 4, 2, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2	Poor	Unsuitable species
mulberry (<i>Morus alba</i>)	928	29	Poor	Non-correctable structure and wounds



Impact Level

Impact level defines how a tree may be affected by construction activity and proximity to the tree, and is described as low, moderate, or high. The following scale defines the impact rating:

- Low = The construction activity will have little influence on the tree.
- Moderate = The construction may cause future health or structural problems, and steps must be taken to protect the tree to reduce future problems.
- High = Tree structure and health will be compromised and removal is recommended, or other actions must be taken for the tree to remain. The tree is located in the building envelope.

All the trees will be highly impacted by the proposed plans and caused to be removed (Table 4). Five are considered to be “Ordinance Size” which are #920, #924, #926, #927, and #928. To mitigate the loss of the trees the landscape plan indicates there will be five twenty-four inch box specimens installed.

Table 4: Expected Impacts

Tree Species	#	Trunk Diameter (in.)	Impact Rating
Chinese pistache (<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>)	918	10.3	High
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> ‘Raywood’)	919	11	High
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> ‘Raywood’)	920	22	High
plum (<i>Punus cerasifera</i>)	921	10	High
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	922	10	High
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	923	11	High
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	924	15.5	High
plum (<i>Prunus sp.</i>)	925	8	High
silver maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>)	926	20	High
silver dollar gum (<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemos</i>)	927	7, 5, 4, 2, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2	High
mulberry (<i>Morus alba</i>)	928	29	High



The image below is a snapshot from the C-2.0 Grading and Drainage Plan indicating the removal of all the existing trees for the proposed improvements (Image 2).

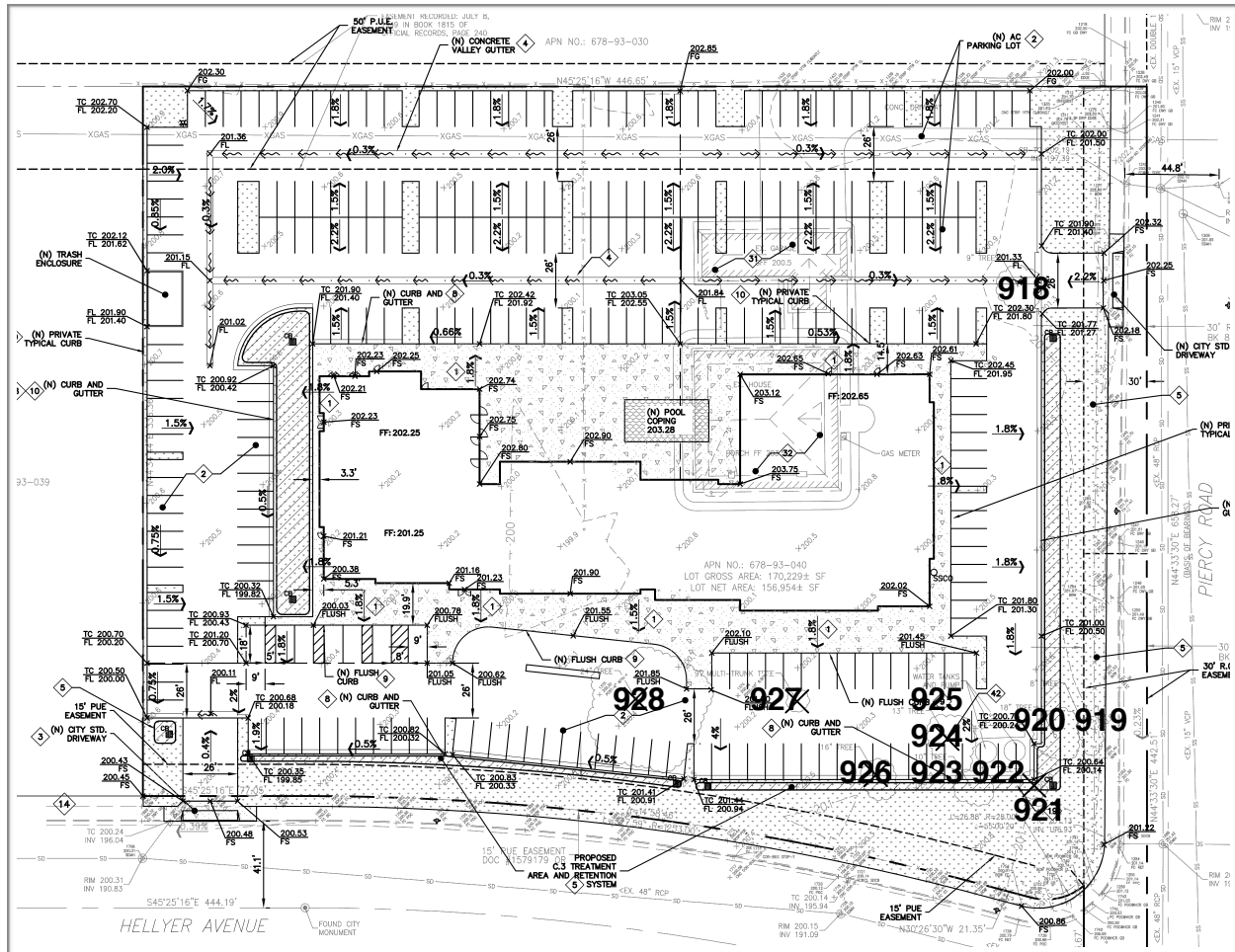


Image 2: Location of trees relative to the C-2.0 plans



Conclusion

The inventory contains all the trees growing on the property and any adjacent with crowns or root area on the site that could be affected by a proposed project. None of the trees assessed are native to the area and all have been introduced. There are eleven trees comprised of six different species with five considered “Ordinance Size”. Most of the trees are in fair condition with the silver maple and silver dollar gum being in poor shape. All the tree have poor suitability for conservation with non-ordinance size Chinese pistache #918 having fair suitability for retention. None of the trees existing are worth preserving and resources should concentrate on replacement with better suited specimens that will provide the desired function and aesthetics for the site. All the trees will be highly impacted by the proposed plans and caused to be removed with the following five considered to be “Ordinance Size”: #920, #924, #926, #927, and #928. The landscape plan indicates there will be five additional twenty-four inch box specimens to account for the loss of the “Ordinance Size” trees.

Recommendations

Removal all the trees once obtaining a permit from the City of San Jose.

Rather than protect any of the existing specimens resources should be concentrated on new installations and their desired function.

Bibliography

- American National Standard for Tree Care Operations: Tree, Shrub and Other Woody Plant Management : Standard Practices (Management of Trees and Shrubs During Site Planning, Site Development, and Construction)(Part 5). Londonderry, NH: Secretariat, Tree Care Industry Association, 2012. Print.
- Fite, Kelby, and Edgar Thomas. Smiley. *Managing trees during construction*, second edition. Champaign, IL: International Society of Arboriculture, 2016.
- Matheny, Nelda P., Clark, James R. Trees and development: A technical guide to preservation of trees during land development. Bedminster, PA: International Society of Arboriculture 1998.
- Smiley, E, Matheny, N, Lilly, S, ISA. *Best Management Practices: Tree Risk Assessment*: International Society of Arboriculture, 2017. Print



Appendix A: Tree Assessment Tables

Table 5: Inventory and Assessment Summary

Tree Species	#	Trunk Diameter (in.)	~ Height (ft.)	~ Canopy Spread (ft.)	Condition	Suitability	Impact	Ordinance Size
Chinese pistache (<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>)	918	10.3	20	20	Fair	Fair	High	No
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood')	919	11	25	25	Fair	Poor	High	No
Raywood ash (<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood')	920	22	25	25	Fair	Poor	High	Yes
plum (<i>Punus cerasifera</i>)	921	10	15	15	Fair	Poor	High	No
plum (<i>Prunus</i> sp.)	922	10	15	15	Fair	Poor	High	No
plum (<i>Prunus</i> sp.)	923	11	15	15	Fair	Poor	High	No
plum (<i>Prunus</i> sp.)	924	15.5	15	15	Fair	Poor	High	Yes
plum (<i>Prunus</i> sp.)	925	8	15	15	Fair	Poor	High	No
silver maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>)	926	20	15	15	Poor	Poor	High	Yes
silver dollar gum (<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemos</i>)	927	7, 5, 4, 2, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2	30	20	Fair	Poor	High	Yes
mulberry (<i>Morus alba</i>)	928	29	40	50	Fair	Poor	High	Yes



Appendix B: Photographs

B1: Mulberry #928



B2: Silver Maple #926



B3: Silver Dollar Gum #927



B4: Plums #921 to #925



B5: Raywood Ash #919 and #920



B6: Chinese pistache #918



Qualifications, Assumptions, and Limiting Conditions

Any legal description provided to the consultant is assumed to be correct. Any titles or ownership of properties are assumed to be good and marketable. All property is appraised or evaluated as though free and clear, under responsible ownership and competent management.

All property is presumed to be in conformance with applicable codes, ordinances, statutes, or other regulations.

Care has been taken to obtain information from reliable sources. However, the consultant cannot be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.

The consultant shall not be required to give testimony or attend meetings, hearings, conferences, mediations, arbitration, or trials by reason of this report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made, including payment of an additional fee for such services.

This report and any appraisal value expressed herein represent the opinion of the consultant, and the consultant's fee is not contingent upon the reporting of a specified appraisal value, a stipulated result, or the occurrence of a subsequent event.

Sketches, drawings, and photographs in this report are intended for use as visual aids, are not necessarily to scale, and should not be construed as engineering or architectural reports or surveys. The reproduction of information generated by architects, engineers, or other consultants on any sketches, drawings, or photographs is only for coordination and ease of reference. Inclusion of said information with any drawings or other documents does not constitute a representation as to the sufficiency or accuracy of said information.

Unless otherwise expressed: a) this report covers only examined items and their condition at the time of inspection; and b) the inspection is limited to visual examination of accessible items without dissection, excavation, probing, or coring. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that structural problems or deficiencies of plants or property may not arise in the future.



Certification of Performance

I Richard Gessner, Certify:

That I have personally inspected the tree(s) and/or the property referred to in this report, and have stated my findings accurately. The extent of the evaluation and/or appraisal is stated in the attached report and Terms of Assignment;

That I have no current or prospective interest in the vegetation or the property that is the subject of this report, and I have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved;

That the analysis, opinions and conclusions stated herein are my own;

That my analysis, opinions, and conclusions were developed and this report has been prepared according to commonly accepted Arboricultural practices;

That no one provided significant professional assistance to the consultant, except as indicated within the report.

That my compensation is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined conclusion that favors the cause of the client or any other party, nor upon the results of the assessment, the attainment of stipulated results, or the occurrence of any other subsequent events;

I further certify that I am a Registered Consulting Arborist® with the American Society of Consulting Arborists, and that I acknowledge, accept and adhere to the ASCA Standards of Professional Practice. I am an International Society of Arboriculture Board Certified Master Arborist® and Tree Risk Assessor Qualified. I have been involved with the practice of Arboriculture and the care and study of trees since 1998.

Richard J. Gessner



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